



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 189

January Session, 2001

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1285

Senate, April 10, 2001

The Committee on Commerce reported through SEN. LEBEAU of the 3rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 (NEW) (a) The Commissioner of Economic and Community
2 Development, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social
3 Services and the Labor Commissioner, may establish an
4 entrepreneurial training program for the purpose of training and
5 preparing former recipients of temporary family assistance, general
6 assistance, state-administered general assistance and aid to families
7 with dependent children, ex-offenders and high school drop-outs for
8 self-employment and entrepreneurial opportunities.
- 9 (b) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
10 may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54
11 of the general statutes, to carry out the purposes of this section.

WFD

JOINT FAVORABLE SUBST. C/R

CE

CE *JOINT FAVORABLE*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: See Explanation Below

Affected Agencies: Departments of Economic and Community Development, Social Services and Labor

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation**State Impact:**

This bill allows the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) in consultation with the Commissioners of Social Services and Labor, to establish an entrepreneurial training program for former recipients of temporary family assistance, general assistance, state-administered general assistance, families with dependant children, ex-offenders and high school dropouts. The DECD has been and is currently, providing state funding to the Hartford College for Women/Entrepreneurial Center to run an entrepreneurial training program. Funds (\$215,000) are provided again for FY 02 and FY 03 in the Governor's Recommended Budget, HB 6668. The current program provides low-income individuals (including those on public assistance, or former recipients of assistance), dislocated workers, and/or displaced homemakers, with the skills and support to enter, transition or re-enter the employment market as entrepreneurs. Any expansion or additional

programs would increase costs not currently budgeted for. Additional costs would be dependant on the scope of the increased activities.

Consultation between the agencies can be handled and would occur within budgeted resources.

OLR BILL ANALYSIS

sSB 1285

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING PROGRAM.**SUMMARY:**

This bill permits the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) commissioner to establish a program to train and prepare former welfare recipients, ex-offenders, and high school dropouts for self-employment and entrepreneurial opportunities. The welfare recipients the program covers are people who received Temporary Family Assistance, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, General Assistance, and State Administered General Assistance.

If the commissioner decides to establish this program, he must do so in consultation with the Labor and Social Services commissioners. The bill permits him to adopt implementing regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2001

BACKGROUND***Related Program***

DECD currently funds the nonprofit Entrepreneurial Center, which provides entrepreneurial training for welfare recipients, displaced homemakers, and unemployed and other low-income people.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Select Committee on Workforce Development

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 12 Nay 0

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 24 Nay 0